

2nd GRADE

2014-2015

Handbook

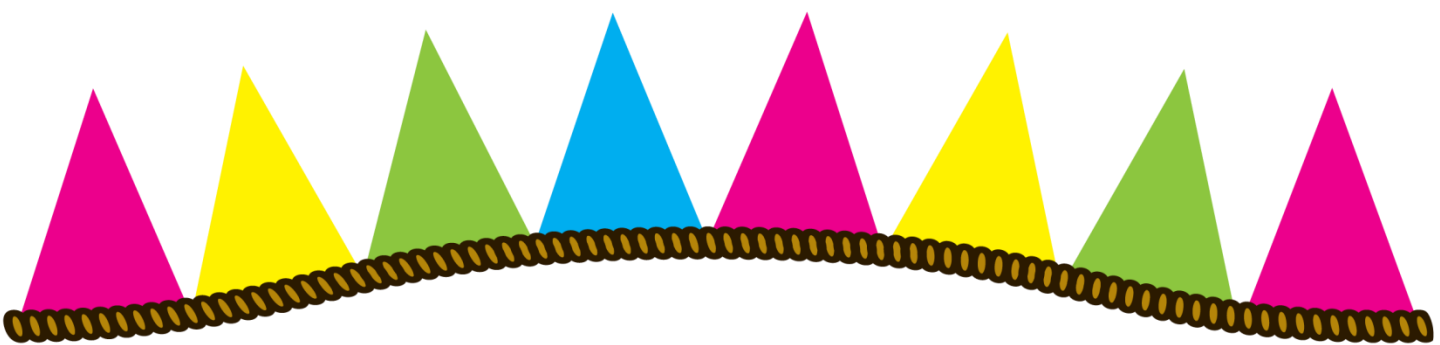


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Welcome to 2nd Grade



We are very excited to welcome your children into our second grade classrooms! In order to start the year off right, we are providing you with our 2nd Grade Handbook. This will help you become familiar with the subject skills your child will learn this year. You will also learn about our procedures for homework, conferences, grading, celebrations, and more. Please keep this handy so you can look back and have it as a guide during the school year.

Second grade is a very exciting year for students and their families. Your child will make a lot of growth in reading, writing, and math skills. They will be learning a lot of new vocabulary that they will use both orally and in their writing. They will learn to read more fluently and with expression. Your child will be exposed to many different types of stories and will learn to ask and answer deeper questions about what they read. Your child will also learn to become much more independent during the year as they are given more responsibilities. This year may also be a lot more challenging since the work gets more difficult during the school year. Most of what your child will be learning is brand new and not reviewed from the previous year! You will probably find that your child comes home with a lot of new information about things learned in school. It is a very exciting year watching them grow!

The key to promoting an educational climate that is conducive to learning is to have open lines of communication between the families, students, and teachers. We are looking forward to working with you and your child this year. Together as a team, we can make this year a success!

The Second Grade Team

Students in 2nd Grade will gain more skills in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. They continue to learn and practice rules for matching sounds to letters that make up words, and they learn new concepts-such as words that share the same root (e.g., *add* and *additional*)-that help them figure out the meaning of new words. Writing will become an exciting way for your child to use newly learned words and phrases to express ideas. As they write and speak, 2nd graders will be more attentive to the formal and informal uses of English and will spell most words correctly in their writing.

What Your Child Will Be Working on in 2nd Grade Reading:

- Paying close attention to details, including illustrations and graphics, in stories and books to answer *who, what, where, when, why, and how* questions.
- Determining the lesson or moral of stories, fables, and folktales.
- Using text features (e.g., captions, bold print, indexes) to locate key facts or information efficiently.
- Writing an opinion about a book he or she has read using important details from the materials to support that opinion.
- Writing stories that include a short sequence of events and include a clear beginning, middle, and end.
- Participating in shared research projects (e.g., read books on a single topic to produce a report)
- Taking part in conversations by linking his or her comments to the remarks of others and asking and answering questions to gather additional information or deepen understanding of the topic.
- Retelling key information or ideas from media or books read aloud.
- Producing, expanding, and rearranging sentences (e.g., "The boy watched the movie"; The little boy watched the movie"; The action movie was watched by the little boy")

Determining the meaning of the new word formed when a known prefix or suffix is added to a known word (happy/unhappy; pain/painful/painless).



In 2nd grade, your child will build on last year's work and gain important new skills. One of the most important outcomes for the year is to add and subtract two-digit numbers quickly and accurately (e.g., 77-28). Another important goal in 2nd grade is to understand what the digits mean in a three-digit number such as 463 (namely, 463 is four hundreds, six tens, and three ones). Your child also will build expertise with solving addition and subtraction word problems. Mastering addition and subtraction at the 2nd grade level is important so that your child will not have to review and repeat this material in 3rd grade when the study of multiplication, division, and fractions will start.

What Your Child Will Be Working on in 2nd Grade Mathematics:

- Solving challenging addition and subtraction word problems with one or two steps (e.g., a "one-step" problem would be: "Lucy has 23 fewer apples than Julie. Julie has 47 apples. How many apples does Lucy have?")
- Quickly and accurately adding with a sum of 20 or less (e.g., 16-9) and knowing all sums of one-digit numbers from memory by the end of the year.
- Understanding what the digits mean in three-digit numbers (place value)
- Using understanding of place value to add and subtract three-digit numbers (e.g., 811-367); adding and subtracting two-digit numbers quickly and accurately (e.g., 77-28)
- Measuring and estimating length in standard units.
- Solving addition and subtraction word problems involving length (e.g., "The pen is 2 cm longer than the pencil. If the pencil is 7 cm long, how long is the pen?")
- Building, drawing, and analyzing 2-D and 3-D shapes to develop foundations for area, volume, and geometry in later grades.



Science Standards in 2nd Grade:

Inquiry:

- Raise questions about the natural world, investigate them in teams through free exploration and systematic observations, and generate appropriate explanations based on those explorations.
- Compare the observations made by different groups using the same tools.
- Ask “how do you know?” in appropriate situations and attempt reasonable answers when asked the same question by others.
- Explain how particular scientific investigations should yield similar conclusions when repeated.
- Distinguish between empirical observation (what you see, hear, feel, smell, or taste) and ideas or inferences (what you think).
- Explain how scientists alone or in groups are always investigating new ways to solve problems.

Life Cycles:

- Observe and describe major stages in the life cycles of plants and animals, including beans and butterflies.

Basic Needs & Environments:

- Compare and contrast the basic needs that all living things, including humans, have for survival.
- Recognize and explain that living things are found all over Earth, but each is only able to live in a habitat that meets its basic needs.

The Human Body:

- Distinguish human body parts (brain, heart, lungs, stomach, muscles, and skeleton) and their functions.



Weather:

- Compare and describe changing patterns in nature that repeat themselves, such as weather conditions including temperature and precipitation, day to day and season to season.
- Investigate, observe, and describe how water left in an open container disappears (evaporates), but water in a closed container does not disappear (evaporate).
- Investigate that air is all around us and that moving air is wind.
- State the importance of preparing for severe weather, lightening, and other weather related events.
- Observe and measure objects in terms of their properties, including size, shape, color, temperature, weight, texture, sinking or floating in water, and attraction and repulsion of magnets.
- Measure and compare temperature taken every day at the same time.

Earth's Surface:

- Recognize that Earth is made up of rocks. Rocks come in many sizes and shapes.
- Describe how small pieces of rock and dead plant and animal parts can be the basis of soil, and explain how the process by which soil is formed.
- Classify soil types based on color, texture (size of particle), the ability to retain water, and the ability to support the growth of plants.

All About Matter:

- Observe and measure objects in terms of their properties, including: size, shape, color, temperature, weight, texture, sinking or floating in water, and attraction and repulsion of magnets.
- Identify objects and materials as solid, liquid, or gas.
- Recognize that solids have a definite shape, and that liquids and gases take the shape of their container.

- Observe and describe water in its solid, liquid, and gaseous states.
- Measure and compare the volume of liquids using containers of various shapes and sizes.

Matter Can Change:

- Investigate that materials can be altered to change some of their properties, but not all materials respond the same way to any one alteration.

Energy:

- Discuss that people use electricity or other forms of energy to cook their food, cool or warm their homes, and power their cars.

Forces and Motion:

- Observe and measure objects in terms of their properties, including: size, shape, color, temperature, weight, texture, sinking or floating in water, and attraction and repulsion of magnets.
- Investigate the effect of applying various pushes and pulls on different objects.
- Demonstrate that magnets can be used to make some things move without touching them.
- Recognize that objects are pulled toward the ground unless something holds them up.
- Demonstrate that the greater the force (push or pull) applied to an object, the greater the change in motion of the object.



Social Studies Standards in 2nd Grade:

Unit 1- Where in the World Are We?

- Use different types of maps (political, physical, and thematic) to identify map elements.
- Using maps and globes, locate the student's hometown, Florida, and North America, and locate the state capital and the national capital.
- Label on a map or globe the continents, oceans, Equator, Prime Meridian, North and South Pole.
- Use a map to locate the countries in North America (Canada, United States, Mexico, and Caribbean Islands).

Unit 2- The First Inhabitants

- Recognize that Native Americans were the first inhabitants in North America.
- Compare the cultures of Native American tribes from various geographic regions of the United States.
- Describe the impact of immigrants on the Native Americans.
- Recognize that people make choices because of limited resources.

Unit 3- Colonial Life and the Forming of Our Nation

- Explore ways the daily life of people living Colonial America changed over time.
- Explain why people form governments.
- Identify the Constitution as the document which establishes the structure, function, powers, and limits of American government.
- Recognize that the United States trades with other nations to exchange goods and services.

Unit 4- Immigration: Becoming America

- Identify reasons people came to the United States throughout history.
- Discuss the importance of Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty to immigration from 1892-1954.
- Discuss why immigration continues today.
- Explain the cultural influences and contributions of immigrants today.

- Recognize that people supply goods and services based on consumer demands.
- Identify what it means to be a United States citizen by birth or naturalization.
- Explain why United States citizens have guaranteed rights and identify rights.
- Recognize symbols, individuals, events and documents that represent the United States.

Unit 5- Citizenship: America's Responsibility

- Explain the consequences of an absence of rules and laws.
- Define and apply the characteristics of responsible citizenship.
- Identify ways citizens can make a positive contribution in their community.
- Evaluate the contributions of various African Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans, veterans, and women.
- Recognize symbols, individuals, events, and documents that represent the United States.
- Explain the personal benefits and costs involved in saving and spending.




Communication of Grades and Assessments

Throughout the year, we will send home reports, notes, and midterms. These items will provide information about how your child is doing in school and will also provide information on the concepts being taught in class. Please take time to read the items sent home.

For the first grading period, we are testing and evaluating your child. Instead of a midterm, we set up conferences with all families to discuss the information gathered from these assessments and devise a plan of action. In the 4th or 5th week of 2nd-4th grading period, expect to see a midterm progress report, which must be signed and returned.

Report Cards

<u>Academic Grades</u>	<u>Effort Grades</u>	<u>Work Habits</u>
90-100%= A	E=Excellent	P= Pass
80-89%= B	G= Good	F=Fail
70-79%= C	S= Satisfactory	
60-69%= D	N= Needs Work	
0-59%= F	U= Unsatisfactory	

Conferences-

Throughout the year, we may need to meet again to discuss some important issues about your child. If you would like to set up a conference, you can send a note in, e-mail, or call at (941) 486-2000. The teacher will respond as soon as possible to set up a time to meet at school and discuss your concerns.

Suggested Topics for Conferences-

- ✓ Concerns with grades
- ✓ Behavior or attitude issues
- ✓ Work habits
- ✓ Homework habits
- ✓ Social skills
- ✓ Weaknesses & strengths
- ✓ Competency in basic skills/progress



Please select no more than 3 areas to discuss during a conference.

Please let the teacher know if you are unable to keep your conference appointment. Rescheduling is not a problem. Another option is scheduling a phone conference if this is more convenient.

Contact Information:

During school hours you may contact teachers at (941) 486-2000. The office staff will send an e-mail so that your child's teacher may contact you at the earliest convenience. Furthermore, you may e-mail your child's teacher at the following: firstname.lastname@sarasotacountyschools.net

Visitors-

Please remember to sign in and get a visitor's pass at the office any time you are visiting the campus:

- Volunteering
- Chaperoning on a field trip (must be PALS approved; register on the computer in the library)
- Visiting your child for lunch
- Picking up your child early from school
- Attending a conference

Thanks for helping us keep our campus safe and secure by following the rules!



Homework:

Homework is meant to practice skills that we learn in school and to keep you informed of our lessons. The assignments may be reading, spelling, math, social studies, or science. It is not meant to be lengthy, so your child should spend no more than 20 minutes on it. Furthermore, your child should be practicing oral fluency each night by reading aloud, along with the basic addition facts. Weekly spelling words will come home and should be studied for the test that is given on Thursday. All homework is sent home in homework folders on Fridays, and should be returned in the folder the following Thursday. That will give one week for homework to be completed. If you have any homework concerns, please contact the teacher.

*This year your child will be bringing home a daily planner. Look for further information from your teacher/school.

Notes from Home:

It is important for you to send a note whenever your child is absent, needs to leave school early, or must go home a different way. We have provided you with a book of blank note templates to make this easier for you. Please note that your child will be sent home the normal way without a dismissal note or call to the front office.

Absences & Tardiness:

Please send in a written note with your child when they are returning from an absence. This is required by the county and tracked by our school's office staff. If you have a planned absence, please contact the teacher ahead of time so we can plan to send any classwork and homework home. If your child arrives late to school he/she must report to the office for a late pass before going to class. Tardiness, absences, and early dismissals without a reasonable excuse will be documented in the attendance record.

*Please note that a student who has 15 unexcused absences within 90 calendar days is a habitual truant under the state law.

Birthdays-



Birthdays are special and won't be overlooked in the classroom. Cupcakes, cookies, brownies, and fruit are welcome as delicious treats. Please do not send in large cakes that must be cut or refrigerated. We do not have a place to store them, and they take up too much time to prepare and pass out! Due to County Health Regulations, we are no longer allowed to accept homemade treats. Please understand we must follow these county guidelines with no exceptions.

Snacks-

Since lunch is later on in the day, we find students get hungry before it comes. We ask that your child bring in a healthy snack every day (no junk food, candy, or soda). Please make the snack a finger food item that does not require extra silverware your child doesn't have on them, and can be eaten quickly. We only have about 5 minutes or so for our snack each day. Some healthy suggestions are: carrots, granola bar, string cheese, fruit, raisins, yogurt, and celery. Students are also permitted to bring water bottles to school to drink in the classroom. Please make sure they are filled only with water. Other liquids are not permitted since spills can cause stains on our floors.

Lunch-

If your child buys lunch each day, please send in lunch money in a sealed envelope with first/last name, and lunch number printed on the front. The teacher will collect it every morning to be sent down to the cafeteria.

When having lunch with your child, please remember the following safety rules:

- You need to obtain a visitor's pass.
- Your child must remain seated with you.
- If you need to leave before the teacher returns, please make sure you return your child to the lunch room.
- You may only take your child to lunch with you.
- If your child enjoys eating with his/her classmates, feel free to eat lunch inside the cafeteria at your child's table.
- If you eat lunch in the courtyard, we request your child sit with you at the picnic table.



The TRS Code of Conduct
"Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be a Star"

Be Respectful

- Actively listen to the teacher and others.
- Treat others as you would like to be treated.

Be Responsible

- Stay on task and finish work.
- Contribute to our classroom community.

Be a STAR

- Put your best effort into everything you do!

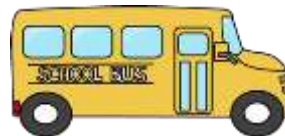
TRS Hallways-

- Keep the noise level low.
- Keep hands and feet to yourself.
- Stay on the right.
- Walk
- Show consideration!



TRS Bus Loop-

- Use only the gate opening closest to your bus.
- Be courteous to all.
- Walk in line with your teacher.
- Keep to the right.
- Be a polite passenger!



TRS Playground-

- Use kind language.
- Play cooperatively.
- Stay within boundaries.
- Use equipment safely.
- Show good sportsmanship!

